

**RESERVATION PROXY FUNCTION
SUPPORTING FILTERING OF MULTICAST TRAFFIC
IN PACKET-BASED COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Call control methods are disclosed for a multi-zone, packet-based communication system using zone controller/RPEs incorporating a reservation proxy function.

10 Participating zone controller/RPEs (124-130) receive and join a multicast group address to be used for a call, and exchange RSVP signaling messages across one or more inter-zone, packet network links (148, 150, 152, 154) to reserve communication resources for the call on behalf of participating devices in various zones. In the preferred embodiment, the zone controllers use IGMPv3 messages

15 to specify other participating zone controllers as valid senders, thereby receiving desired control information for the duration of the call without being encumbered by undesired payload information.